

THE MEANING OF SOCIALISM--AS SUMMED UP BY VICTOR L. BERGER

(Text of the speech delivered before the Columbia University Socialist Club.)

SOcialism is generally defined as the "collective ownership and democratic management of the social means of production and distribution."

Definitions as a rule do not explain much, however. This definition explains even less than usual, because Socialism is not a mere theory invented by some learned professor or philosopher. Socialism is the name of a phase of civilization, just as feudalism was a phase of civilization and as capitalism is the name of the civilization we have now.

Many students of history and of political economy say that Socialism must be the name of the next phase, if civilization is to survive.

Man started as a savage and hunter. The next stages of human progress were those of the nomadic herdsman and the agriculturist. Slavery developed in these stages. The feudal system was the next step, followed by the wage system.

The wage system was a step in the evolution of freedom of the wage worker is better off than the laborer of any previous epoch of human society. But the wage system is only a step forward.

The present wage system has evolved to the trust stage. Trusts have been vigorously attacked for their flagrant evils; yet we also realize the great advantages of the trust method of production and distribution on the largest scale.

The trust has introduced many economies. It saves labor and effort, concentrates production and produces more cheaply. It eliminates the middle-man, saves expenses incident to advertising and drumming up trade, and saves paying commissions to jobbing houses and small merchants.

The trust thereby has naturally created a tremendous opposition--especially among the smaller business men. But the statesmen and politicians of the capitalist system are powerless to cope with the trusts, because when the trusts are trying to make as much profit as possible--or as much as the traffic will permit--they are only doing on a large scale what every small business man does on a small scale.

I noticed five different tendencies in Congress pertaining to the trust question:

First: There were the standpatners. They said, "Let well enough alone." They were satisfied with conditions. They

want no change. They were afraid any change would be for the worse: as far as their special interests were concerned.

Second: There was the group represented by President Taft and his friends. They wanted to enforce the Sherman Anti-Trust act. Attorney-General Wickersham really brought suit against the Standard Oil company and against the Tobacco Trust, and secured "favorable" decisions from the Supreme court. Both the Standard Oil company and Tobacco Trust were "dissolved" into various component parts.

The result in each case was beneficial to the trusts which now, since they are "dissolved," have really, for the first time in their existence, a legal basis on which to do business. The ownership of these trusts, of course, remains the same as before. Their methods are the same and the profits go to the same persons.

Naturally enough their stock went up after the decision of the Supreme Court to dissolve.

Third: There was the Democratic party, which wanted new laws passed in order to get back to the individualism of Thomas Jefferson and the competition of the old style. That is impossible. These good folks might just as well propose the abolition of the railroad and return to the days of the old stage-coach. The trust form is the modern way of doing business. Business has learned how to walk and will never creep again.

Fourth: We have the so-called Progressives of the La Follette type. They wish to "regulate" the trusts. But regulation must necessarily fail, because the Government cannot effectively regulate anything it does not own. Moreover, the trusts naturally will try to appoint directly or indirectly the commissioners that are to regulate them, or to influence the commissioners after they have been appointed. It will be a matter of business with them. If they do not succeed, they will simply appeal to the Courts as they have done in similar cases everywhere. And the courts have to decide by custom and precedent established in centuries gone by. Regulation is, therefore, bound to fail.

There remains only one more proposition, and that is the Socialist proposition. It is the natural solution of the question: namely, the national ownership of the trusts by the nation.

The Socialists contend that complete justice can be accomplished only by the collective ownership and demo-

cratic management of the trusts and other social means of production and distribution.

I realize that all this cannot be brought about by a single strike--by one day's evocation. But I know that all legislation, in order to be really progressive and wholesome, must move in that direction.

You will say--how are you going to evolve the new system? How are you going to limit it?

1. We believe that everything that is necessary for the life of the nation, for the enjoyment of everybody within the nation, the nation is to own and manage. Therefore we shall take over the trusts, railroads, mines, telegraphs, and other monopolies of national scope.

2. Everything that is necessary for the life and development of the state, the state is to own and manage. There are certain business functions that the state will have to take care of, like interurban lines, for instance.

3. Everything that is necessary for the life and development of a city, the city is to own and manage, not only street cars and light and heating plants, but also abattoirs, public bake shops, the distribution of pure milk, and so forth.

4. Everything that the individual can own and manage best, the individual is to own and manage. That is simple enough.

Important changes are imminent. We see the trusts not only doing away with competition, but also asking for government interference and for government regulation of prices. In other words, we have the spectacle of the trusts surrendering part of their ownership and practically offering that part of the ownership to the government.

Thus the trusts--or at least some of the trusts--are willing to part with their ownership because they feel that their business has ceased to be private concern. The trusts feel that their business has become a public utility--of the most public and utilitarian sort.

But the change is also coming from the other side.

The majority of the people have no interest in keeping up the present system. The working class especially is bound to become revolutionary as a class.

Our workingmen today build a few palaces and many hovels. The workingmen live in the hovels and the few capitalists in the palaces.

Our workingmen in the woolen mills make a small amount of fine clothes and millions of yards of shoddy. The workingmen wear the shoddy and the rich idlers wear the fine clothes.

In former epochs the ruling class was by far the abler and stronger--physically and mentally. In former years a few nobles, clad in iron, and trained and accustomed to warfare, could hold in subjection twenty times their number of common people.

The ruling class was also at that time the only class that was in the possession of the wisdom of the world--whatever wisdom the world had then. The ruling class also had in its favor the belief that this system was God ordained, and that anybody defying it was a rebel to God.

Things are different nowadays.

The working class not only builds the houses, ships and machines--but the working class also teaches in the public schools, writes the papers and books. Not only the man who sets up the type for the papers and books is a working man--but also the man or woman who writes them usually belongs to our class. The capitalist class depends upon us not only for a living, but also for information and defense.

Moreover, we have the ballot. No subjected class in the history of mankind ever before this had the same political basis as the ruling class had. On election day our vote is as good as Rockefeller's and we are many, and the capitalists are few.

This system is not the end of all things--not any more than feudalism was the end of all things. It is, therefore, absolutely false to represent Socialists as intending to overthrow or annihilate society--as appealing to the brute passions of the masses. We agitate for the organization of the masses. And organization everywhere means order.

We educate, we enlighten, we reason, we discipline.

The Social-Democrats want to maintain culture and civilization and to bring it to a much higher level. We appeal to the best in every man--to the public spirit of the citizen, to his love of wife and children.

CURRENT COMMENT

BY FREDERIC HEATH

Big gains for Socialism are expected in the elections in Italy, that take place next month. The Socialists are going to drop a good many "pieces of paper in a box" and make them register their will, too.

May Day was celebrated in various parts of the Russian dominion, only that the celebrations took place on May 14, since the Russian calendar is different from ours. Especially in Finland were the processions large.

Harry Thaw's lawyer has been found guilty of attempting to get his client out of durance by bribery. It was Thaw money he was dealing in, of course, and bribery is again shown to be one of the trump cards of the capitalist class, only it usually is not found out.

The Social-Democratic party of Canada now has over 125 locals and a dues-paying membership of 3,834, a gain of 2,128 since 1911. There is a so-called Socialist party in Canada also, but it is so DeLeonistic that the other party had to be started to save the Socialist movement from stagnation.

Here is a cheering news item, just leaked out, that will bring joy to the heart of Mr. Peter Collins and his so-called and blasphemous Militia of Christ: The International News Letter, issued from Berlin to the labor movement states that on the thirty-eight labor men arrested in connection with the McNamara dynamitings thirty-eight rosaries and fourteen talismans were found. Peter should either confirm the report or deny it, and then gracefully accept either horn of the dilemma.

The Social-Democrats in Germany have just been fighting up the aggregate of fines levied against the editors of their party papers and the total is found to be the snug sum of \$2,072. Besides this there were the terms of imprisonment, and these totalled up just two years, eight months and three weeks. All this was incident and necessary to the great struggle of the party and not mere adventures on the part of individuals seeking personal notoriety. The party in Germany is too serious and too much in earnest to tolerate "monkeying" of that sort.

The committee sent to investigate West Virginia found conditions there worse than they had expected, as shown by Comrade Berger's testimony in this issue of The Herald. But they also found that some of the stories sent out from that hell-hole-in-a-free-land were rank fabrications. Lies had been sent out where the facts would have been even more effective, more damning. We used to read in our copybooks that honesty is the best policy, and it certainly is for the Socialist movement. We can afford to give the I. W.'s a

monopoly on trickery and clumsy sensationalism.

The American workman is the most productive of any, no nation barred, says a member of Wilson's cabinet. Which, of course, means that the American workmen are the worst plucked and the best slaves international capitalism has. And it all turns upon the ownership of machinery and the forces of production. The American workingman produces for others. Others, owning the machinery of production, grow rich through his labor, but he stays poor. Changing the system so that the machinery of production shall be socially-owned, would give the wealth to those who produced it, not to a fleeing class.

The editor of the Billy Goat, an erratic magazinelet issued from Michigan, is now ma-a-a-ing for a union of our party with the moribund S. L. P. The movement in Michigan is far from being what it should be, considering the industries of that state and the great opportunities. Something is wrong. We should have a big party in Michigan. Perhaps the Billy Goat's latest stunt is a pretty good indication of what's wrong. The circulation of one Socialist paper alone, the Appeal to Reason, is over 14,000 in Michigan, but it is evident that men like the Goat's editor are thinking more of queer stunts than they are of down-right work for party organization.

Ten suicides a day is the number reported from St. Petersburg, mostly of members of the working class who are poor--and most of the working class ARE poor under the capitalist system, blessed by the saints of profit, interest and rent. But the czar doesn't care. He has

AN AUTHENTIC REPORT OF FRIGHTFUL CONDITIONS IN W. VA.

Conditions in the West Virginia coal districts have been far worse than the human mind could comprehend during the warfare between the workers who have been seeking justice and the thugs employed by the coal company, according to Ex-Congressman Victor L. Berger.

"It is no wonder that the world has not had access to the news of the conditions in West Virginia when it has been suppressed by the censors who own everything body and soul in that territory," he says.

"Cal Young is the only representative of the news service in the coal region. He represents the Associated Press, the United Press, the Sun service, the Three-State service and is a special correspondent for some so-called (Progressive) papers. Remember, too, that he has his desk in the office of the Adjutant General."

"Could you imagine a more complete suppression of truth of news than this?"

along with the Standard Oil company, the Guggenheims and Boston and New York capitalists, and there is no other work to be had except work in the mines.

"The capitalists knew that the land contained coal and took advantage of the ignorance of the mountaineers, who were not aware that wealth was beneath them. The land is now owned by the capitalists. The coal companies not only own the land, but make the laws and the judges, and on to the supreme court. Immense stretches of lands are owned by these corporations just as we own our front yards; West Virginia is the private property of mining companies. There are private roads all over the country guarded by watchmen who are hired by the company from the Baldwin-Felts agency."

"The Baldwin-Felts guards are mostly former jail birds, thugs and desperadoes, who get \$75 a month and board, such form the private army of the coal companies."

"The purpose of hiring these demons is to keep away all those who endeavor to organize the miners. The coal corporation even owns the homes or huts in which the workers live, and when a contract is signed, a

clause is inserted that any person who is not desired by the company will not be allowed to stay overnight in the house. There was a case cited to me where an uncle of one of the miners stayed overnight. He was favorable to the union, it was later discovered, and the miner who sheltered him was beaten up."

"Mine Owners Run Everything."

"One can not imagine the power of the mining company in this district," he continued. "It elects senators and judges. It owns both the Republican and the Democratic party in the state. All laws are made to suit the mine owners. All the judges are elected through their influence, even up to the judges of the supreme court. Such are the conditions we were met with face to face."

"There is also this to be considered--in other words the mine workers are for the most part foreigners, while in West Virginia fully 95 per cent of the miners are natives. They used to own the hills but are now slaves to the treasures contained in the hills. Warfare has been on for years, due to the oppression by the owners of the black diamonds. It was a bloody war between the mountaineers and the

miners, especially during the last year."

"During this turmoil, the authorities took the part of the mine owners. The militia helped the guards, the supreme court backed the militia, which goes to show that the mine owners controlled all."

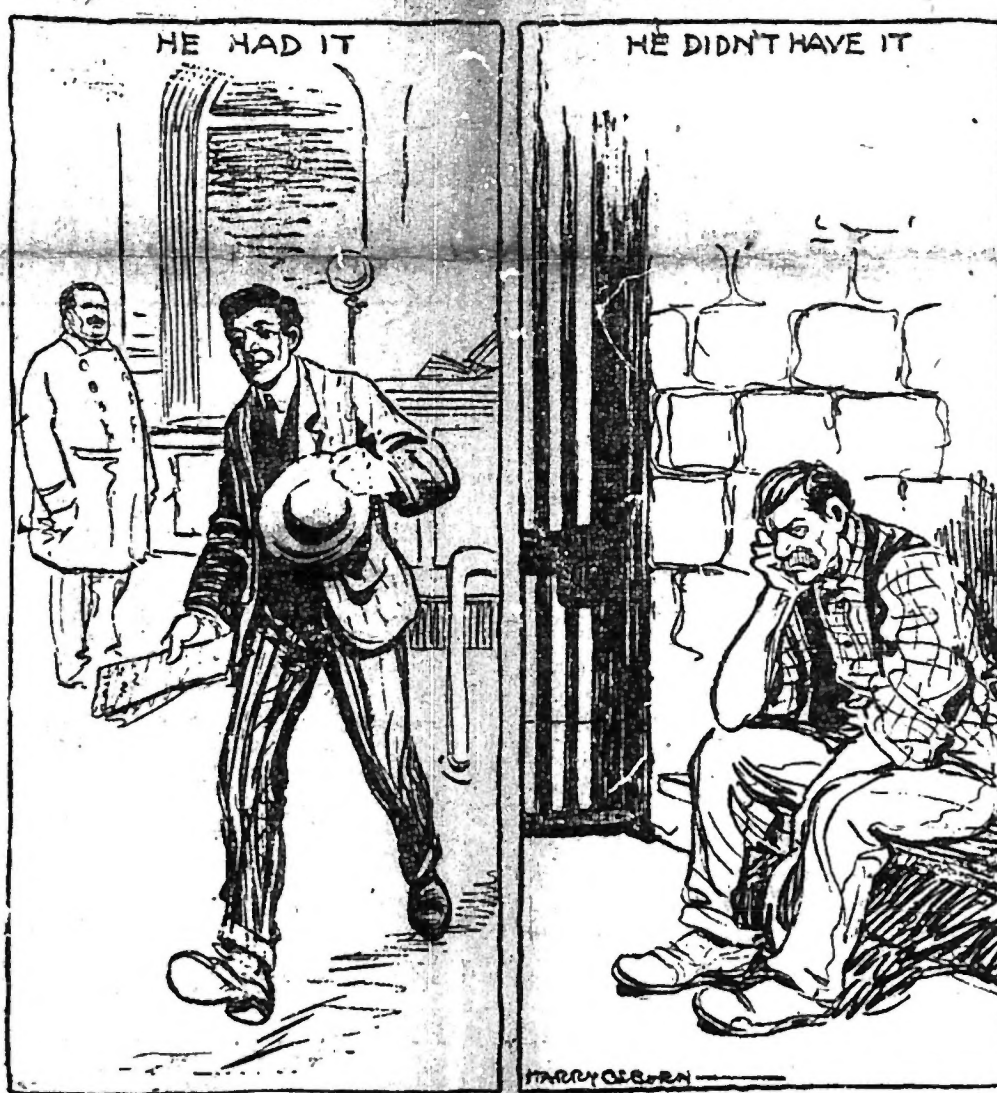
"This was the condition to May 24, when these thugs had the power of officers of the law--they acted as deputy sheriffs--taken away from them. Now the guards are compelled to get permits to carry guns from a judge."

"This is due to the activity of Gov. Hatfield who does not have much sympathy with the mine guards. He himself is from the stock of the old mountaineers. He is a nephew of the leader of the once famous Hatfield McCoy family, and he feels keenly the feud now existing between the miners and owners."

"The governor has no conception of the labor problem, nor has he any idea of the Socialist party what it means and what its aims are. It is all Greek to him."

"He has promised to protect all organizers of the mine workers' union and the organizers of the Socialist

It's a Fine Justice That Barter Freedom for Money!



—Baltimore News.

been over in Germany to a royal wedding and kissing the mugs of King George and Kaiser Wilhelm, with the empty heads among the slave class going wild and almost spitting their hands off with applause. When there is a railroad wreck it shows that something somewhere is wrong. And just so these human wrecks who seek relief in death, show that there is something wrong about our social system. The Socialists know what the wrong is. They are massing internationally to twist the neck of the system that is wrecking humanity.

Another member of the old Marx International is dead, Hector Denis. He was born in 1842 and in 1865 became a doctor of science at the Brussels university and later on, a professor. He was a member of the first band of Social-Democrats who were elected to the Belgian parliament, and was a member of the same body when his eyes closed in death. In fact one of his last speeches in that tribunal was an impassioned address in favor of the big Belgian strike. It was his practice to read and work in bed from 5 to 7 in the morning and he was found in the morning dead in bed, with a book on The Elements of Psychology and Sociology and Jaures' Socialist History, lying before him. He died in harness.

Some wise words have been recently quoted from Plechanoff. They apply perfectly to a certain type of men who are just now attempting to supplant Socialism in the labor movement by a return to direct action tactics. Says Plechanoff: "An anarchist is a person, who--when not a police agent--is fated always, and everywhere, to obtain the opposite of that which he attempts to achieve." And what

better evidence of this have we than the willingness of such to abandon the field in which numbers count and where the enemy is weak and to fly with passion and unthinking impatience to that where the enemy just lives, i. e., the field of violence and direct action, which on the enemy's part is "law and order" while it is lawlessness and disorder when resorted to by the toilers!

Again has a lesson been spread before the proletariat, in the case of the West Virginia affair. For years direct action on both sides has kept the hills and camps bloody, with little if any improvement in the situation of the luckless slaves of capitalism. But over the situation, so far as the mine workers were concerned, was the great coal miners' union, which, moving from the posing, impotent tactics of a Mitchell was steadily passing under the leadership of a new type of men, just as the Machinists have been and various other of the wonderful labor organizations. These new leaders have not been ashamed to use the political arm of labor, and the result has been almost magical. West Virginia will now soon be taken into the union of civilized states--and that much gained, the workers will move on to further conquests, winning their way to emancipation, as all good things must be won, by hard and watchful efforts.

The Masses, a paper ostensibly Socialist but which has finally drifted toward the bogs of dilletante, intellectual anarchism, has this coarse libel on the battle-scarred Socialists who have kept the American movement straight and regular during all the years of trial and stress:

"But I could not explain. All I could say was that a good share of the Socialist party and the American Federation of Labor have forgotten all about the class struggle, and seem to be playing a little game with Capitalistic rules. 'Button, button, who's got the vote!'"

The paragraph is from an article in which are upheld the sabotage artists who have been carrying on the latter day humbug against the regular trade union movement, in line with the tactics started years ago by the DeLeonists, by which the American Socialist movement got a bad name among many well-meaning union men all over the country. And by which, as from no other one cause can be explained the relative backwardness of Socialism in the United States and its no-man-in-congress situation, as contrasted with the movements in the nations across the Atlantic. "Forgotten all about the class struggle!" Of all libels! The old line Socialists forget the class struggle--that is rich, especially when you understand that the charge comes from the rattle-brains who imagine that the class struggle is waiting for them to give it real substance by making monkey faces at policemen!

"When I look upon the crowded thousands and see them trample on their conscience and the rights of their fellow men at the bidding of a piece of parchment (the constitution) I say I can see the constitution of the United States." --Wendell Phillips.

WEST VIRGINIA'S LESSON

The Socialist party of America has again gloriously justified its existence and again proved its unwavering allegiance to the cause of labor and of our oppressed brothers and sisters of the working class in West Virginia. The adamant silence of the capitalist press has been pierced; the criminal conspiracy of silence maintained by the kept newspapers of the country has been dispelled. Thanks to the Socialist party and its wide-awake ever watchful press, the full dogs of West Virginia have been put

(Continued to 3d page.)

THE ARCHBISHOP AND THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN

Women's suffrage must take its place with republicanism, free masonry and Socialism, not counting in the Jews, who have been anathema from the beginning, as an "un-Christian," "infidel," "atheistic" and devil worshipping device which, if permitted, would "undermine religion" and "destroy the family." It is quite as bad as the Copernican theory before it was reconciled to the eternal truth.

It seems that having a more intimate acquaintance with "God's plan" than Cardinal Gibbons, who recently rebuked Louis Milbrandt for stating that Catholic ecclesiastics insist that "faith and morals" are involved in the question of women's suffrage, Archbishop Messmer, speaking with the authority of his high office in the Roman church, says:

If we come to the question of equal rights, which is the question of women's suffrage as it is presented to us, then the question becomes for a Catholic, for a Christian, a religious question.

The archbishop having discovered a religious question in equal suffrage, opposes the granting of the franchise to women. "God," he says, "has determined that women should be inferior to men." Yet he is willing to concede that when God determined woman's inferiority, He did not purpose to bar her from participating in school elections or from holding minor offices. It is when women go to congress that they run counter to the original plan. The archbishop says:

There may be no objection to granting women a certain modified suffrage. It makes a great deal of difference whether a woman is elected on the school board of a city or whether she be elected to the congress of the United States.

A Weekly Story.

The Beauty Pills.

Mr. and Mrs. Thorpe were conversing very animatedly with the only other stockholder in their "company," while Louise, their grown daughter, was copying into a notebook names of cities which she took from a map.

"This sort of advertising is becoming too common," said the girl, "especially as we weren't the first to use it."

The sole stockholder laughed, and said:

"And yet it's just the kind of advertising that is best suited to the 'Venus Pills.' And then, what's the difference? The great thing is that people should buy the Venus Pills, which have such remarkable results."

"Which bring out youthful beauty, no matter how long since it may have faded," continued Louise.

"I'm just added at the end of my list," she replied, "the only thing missing is to write enthusiastic letters to the inventor of the Venus Pills and to assure him, over various initials, of the marvelous effect they have had on my flabby bust, which has now become firm and charming."

"My dear girl, we understand your troubles. But you forget that these anonymous letter advertisements help us to sell 800 boxes of pills every day, and that every one of them contains a grain of hope for some woman who wants to become beautiful. Whatever you say, we are really nihilists."

"Oh, surely we revivify vanished charms—to think of saying that!" replied Louise, laughing.

"You do wrong to laugh at our invention, which is a pure invention, is none the less the basis of your prosperity," declared the stockholder seriously.

"And above all, be careful with these letters, their originality will make our fortune."

"We've never received a single complimentary letter—and for a good reason! Women of vanishing charms have literally gored themselves on the pills and yet not a single customer can boast of having regained a Venus-like form from having used them."

"My child, there are things that are impossible. But the customer hopes

and prays—and that is the essential thing."

"Have you written the ad for La Matinee, the one that is to be accompanied with the photograph of the stout woman?" asked Louise's father.

"I'll do it!"

"Judge for yourself."

"I'll—I am astonished at the effect upon my bust of the Venus Pills. I have regained the firm contours of youth, and I do not know how I can ever thank you, my benefactor. I send you an order for three more boxes."

"That's good! Oh, here's the postman."

The lone stockholder opened a few envelopes and read their contents. Suddenly, brandishing a letter in his hand, he almost strangled with astonishment and it was with difficulty that he could explain to the others.

"It's a genuine letter!" he cried, "a genuine one! A real testimonial, and signed 'With love'!"

"The others, at least, they all laugh at the effect produced by the Venus Pills, and give thanks in enthusiastic and sincere phrases for the result obtained!"

"We must get a thousand copies of her photograph," said the inventor.

"We ought to have it framed," said the stockholder.

"We must send a dozen boxes of pills to the miracle of a woman," declared Louise. "It will be the best of advertisements."

"We must get her to come to Paris. And with the genuine letter before them, she will, at least, they all laughed long and heartily, as if to render homage to the eternal stupidity of mankind.—Marcel Dalu, in 'L'Humanité'.

A Fablette.

Once upon a time two nations had a misunderstanding. And as each thought it was stronger than the other, they began to appropriate money, build battleships and enlist soldiers.

Everything looked very ominous, when, by a stroke of fate, the war story runs at all. Two men had a disagreement. They slandered each other and sued each other in the courts. Both paid damages, and they

became life-long enemies. Their families—

"There isn't any real necessity for a war," said Assemblyman Kiefer.

"The date set, June 12, for the recess is the date that might easily be set for adjournment sine die. The assembly calendars are growing shorter right along, and we are holding few committee meetings. It seems to me that

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comes hopelessly inferior when, instead of being born to the purple, she is elected to perform legislative functions.

It is well to have these religious questions in our political affairs cleared up by the voice of authority so that we may know precisely what God's will is before the voters or the legislature and congress seek to nullify it.

It is, however, confusing to find men contradicting one another who profess to know exactly what God's design was when He inspired six days and created the earth, fashioned Adam from the dust, breathed the breath of life into him, subsequently causing him to fall into a profound slumber, and extracting a rib surreptitiously, from which Eve, the first woman, was made.

There are bishops and archbishops and cardinals who tell us that there is nothing irreligious in women's suffrage. There are none in the United States who denounce republicanism because it was introduced by "infidels" and "atheists" and "heretics," though in Europe, even today, republicanism is classed with Socialism, while one of the popes condemned it as "un-Christian." For it denies the doctrine of "divine right," upon which the papacy rests its claims to temporal power.

The archbishop's onslaught on women's suffrage is to be placed in pamphlet form and distributed by the Rev. Peter Deitz of the Militia of Christ. As a twentieth century survival of medievalism it should command a considerable circulation, revealing, as it does, the wide gulf which separates modern civilization from the age of faith.—The Milwaukee Leader.

WISCONSIN

Social-Democrats in State Legislature. Senate, Gabriel S. Kiefer, Assembly, Martin Gorecki, J. E. Vint, William Smith, Capt. J. L. Larson, Marinette.

Oppose Recess.

MADISON, Wis., May 30.—While the Social-Democrats cannot be accused of playing politics during the present session of the legislature, they will cast their lot with Gov. McGovern in opposition to the resolution adopted in the senate for a recess until January, 1914. The Socialists believe in working to the end of the session, and in clearing up all pending matters by an early date in June.

"To support the recess plan," said Assemblyman Vint, "would mean more to the Socialists than members of other parties in the legislature. With most of us it is a case of quit our jobs when we come to the legislature, and it is a case of looking up a new job when we get back. To quit two jobs and be forced to seek two new ones, as would be necessary if the legislature took a recess, is asking a little too much. I feel that the governor's position in opposition to the recess plan is well taken. We would have voted against the recess resolution regardless of whether the governor sent a message to the legislature on that subject."

No Necessity for It.

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If the senate would get down to hard work that all of the large measures now pending could be thrashed out and intelligently acted upon in time for adjournment in June. What Mr. Vint says about looking for jobs applies to most of the Socialists who come to the legislature. I might add that it would be doubly hard for us to find work next winter.

Against Injunctions.

MADISON, Wis., May 31.—The Social-Democrats are jubilant over the progress being made by the Kiefer bill to abolish restraining orders and injunctions in time of labor disturbances, and the author of the bill feels that the proposition has an excellent chance of being passed.

When an attempt was made in the senate to amend the bill in such a manner that the real purpose of the measure would have been greatly weakened, there was a hot debate. When the vote was called the senate stood 12 to 11 for advancing the bill in its original form to third reading. With the dangerous amendment brushed aside, Kiefer feels that if the bill goes through at all it will not be tampered with to any great extent.

The Kiefer bill explodes the old theory that workmen are to be handled as a piece of property. The bill is the date that might easily be set for adjournment sine die. The assembly calendars are growing shorter right along, and we are holding few committee meetings. It seems to me that

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ABOOK

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MILWAUKEE SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY

BOOK DEPARTMENT

Brisbane Hall

Milwaukee, Wis.

OSHKOSH.

OSHKOSH, Wis.—Continuing his sermon on social righteousness, which he began two weeks ago, the Rev. Greenwood of the Trinity Episcopal church delivered a powerful sermon against the "Altimaness of Oshkosh." Using as his text the incident of Simon, the magician, trying to purchase the Holy Spirit with his coin, he based on it the idea of the American millionaire striving to purchase brains for his daughter at boarding school.

Assemblyman Vint and Kiefer predicted that the recess resolution would be defeated by a large vote in the house.

"The vote of the Socialists against the resolution," said Mr. Vint, "will not be needed, as the margin will be a wide one."

"By virtue of an aggressive mind, a few of our millionaires have gained the wealth of the nation," he said.

"Their methods may have been outrightly fraudulent, like the commercial baccarat or strictly immoral, though not illegal, in former years we have seen a barkeeper exalted by sudden wealth to a United States senatorship."

"Formerly it was easy for a man to rise to the top, but it is hard now. If a man has wealth today, the question should be, how did you get your money and what good are you rendering society with it? There is no inherent evil in wealth, but it is the abuse of wealth that causes evil."

"Michael Angelo could never have given the world the benefit of his genius had it not been for a pope's treasures. Our rich men can no longer be allowed to damn the public but must serve the people. A certain amount of money is absolutely necessary to earthly happiness, but our first earthly duty is to earn enough money to make a living. The industries of the United States have been a vast waste upon the people. Low wages make virtue impossible. We have heard much about tainted money. All money gained by inordinate greed is tainted."

"In the recent report upon the feasibility of a United States income tax, it was shown that only 400,000 of our people had \$5,000 or over, while \$9,000,000 had less than \$500. This means that 1 per cent of the people owns 50 per cent of the wealth and 50 per cent of the people control 90 per cent of the wealth."

"Even the eccentric millionaire, Steven Girard, did not leave so anti-social a will as the late Mr. Morgan. Girard bequeathed upon society without secular or religious cant as a ferocious shark. He made no pretenses and scoffed at religion as superstition. Nevertheless, in his final testament, he remembered every person who had worked for him and left money to all the hospitals of Philadelphia and New Orleans. With the bulk of his fortune he founded the great college which still bears his name—Girard college of Philadelphia."

One day, through no fault of his own, the Man from Mars found himself within the uncouth confines of West Virginia. Not far from the capital city he came upon a large number of soldiers all bedecked in majestic

EAU CLAIRE.

Eau Claire.—Since our last communication, the Socialist events to be reported, are itemized as follows:

First: Our readers of the local press were surprised by the announcement that our comrade La Due was a prospective for the Socialist lecture field.

Second: On the evening of the 28th of April, comrade Leon Durocher, of Grand Rapids, who at one time had been a nominee on the Socialist ticket, for Congress, in the first district of North Dakota, as well as having filled clerkships in the state senate and assembly, created a sensation upon a corner of our principle thoroughfare: Socialism of course being his theme.

As a student of political and economic conditions, he was impelled to become a Socialist.

"During his magnetic address, he detained a large, varied and attentive audience from the passing throngs; scattering seed that was carried hither and yon, and like thistle down upon the wind, will produce results of which it will be hard to eradicate."

The impressive points were: The elimination of profits from commercial enterprises, thus removing the cause of industrial slavery, and immoral traffic.

"Trusts" were mentioned as the hope of the Nation, when under the control and management of the electorate, the people.

The present public utilities should be redeemed from private control, and relatively managed by nation, state and municipal.

SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC HERALD

MILWAUKEE SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY

FREDERICK HEATH VICTOR BERGER
Editor

The Herald is Not Responsible for Opinions of the Contributors

Entered at the Milwaukee Postoffice as Second-Class Matter, August 25, 1907.

COPENHAGEN, Denmark.—Elections to the folketing, or lower house of parliament, resulted in a Socialist-Radical victory owing to disagreement among members of the government on reform of the constitution. The folketing consists of 114 members, and the new house is made up: Leftists, 51; Socialists, 22; Conservatives, 7. The former house consisted of: Leftists, 55; Radicals, 20; Socialists, 24; Conservatives, 14.

TERRE HAUTE, Indiana.—Eugene V. Debs, Socialist candidate for president of the United States, today accompanied by his wife, arrived in Terre Haute, Ind., to attend the International Socialist congress in Vienna to August.

It will be Debs' first visit to Europe. The American Socialist leader said today that he will tour Australia and New Zealand after the Vienna congress adjourns before returning to this country for a speaking tour that will include every state in the Union.

BERLIN, Germany.—The German government is sorely troubled by the manifest intention of the Centre and Radical parties to assist the Socialists in the process of putting out the French newspapers and magazines in Alsace-Lorraine. The Centre and Socialists are certain to throw out the government's proposal in this matter, and that may precipitate dissolution.

official connection with the agency. "I do not want them posing as agency men and take from each of them their employe cards and if they have any agency badges you need not take them away from them, but require them to take them off, put them in their trunks and not even wear them."

Has a Record.
The city of Thurmond is the headquarters for the Baldwin thugs in the New River coal field. W. A. Burwell, an ex-convict, has been sent to the state penitentiary as a murderer from Fayette county, which adjoins Raleigh county. He is now the chief of the Raleigh county thugs with headquarters at Beckley.

CHARLESTON, W. Va.—The Socialist committee investigating conditions in the coal mining regions of this state has been very much amused by the statements issued by the head of the Associated Press claiming that their reports from the war zone here have been uncensored.

During the civil war that raged in the Cable and Paint Creek districts he was one of the militia captains that made himself most obnoxious to the miners. His activities have ceased for the time being as he is put on exhibition, but with a space left for the words "first," "second," "third," or "fourth" to be put to after the event, according to the result.



ATTACK ON UNIONS FROM WITHIN

BY CARL D. THOMPSON

In response to inquiries sent to the Information Department of the Socialist party, we have applied to the national headquarters of the organization known as The Militia of Christ, and secured the following information:

"A. P." representative here is Cal Young, who keeps a desk in the state house close to the throne. The peculiar thing about Young is that he is correspondent for both the United Press and the Associated Press.

Every time that a press representative in West Virginia begins sending out news matter at all favorable to the workers the mine owners get busy and have him beheaded.

Nothing could be more untrue. The mine owners hoped that with the coming of the Socialist committee there would be a complete rupture between the Socialist party and the United Mine Workers, that the committee would aggravate the present situation, which was just what was desired by the exploiters.

The Rev. Peter E. Dietz, executive secretary of the organization, sends us a copy of the constitution and charter laws of the organization, from which we take the following:

"The Militia of Christ was founded by a band of ardent Catholic Trade Union Leaders. A temporary organization was effected in the course of the American Federation of Labor convention at Toronto in 1909. The organization was perfected and made permanent at St. Louis on November 21, 1910. The purpose is a personal service in the cause of Christ on earth to the face of non-Catholic endeavors toward the subversion of the Christian structure of society."

Membership. Executive membership is limited to practical Catholics. Associate and Honorary membership is open to Catholics as well as non-Catholics.

Officers for 1912. President, Peter J. McArdle, Pittsburgh, Pa. First Vice-President, John S. Whalen, Rochester, N. Y. Among the directors are John Mitchell, New York; James O'Connell, Washington, D. C.; Dennis A. Hayes, Philadelphia, Pa.; John R. Alpine, Chicago; David A. Carey, Toronto; Phody Kennahan, Denver.

Official Lecturer and Organizer: Peter W. Col. Subjects of lectures: Socialism and social reform; Why Socialism is opposed to religion; Why Socialism is opposed to the labor movement; Why Socialism is opposed to marriage and the family; The ideals and philosophy of labor; The workers in industry and their protection.

A SILLY ATTACK.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — That the group of city officials who left this city to spend three days at the University of Wisconsin were "into the realm of Socialism, where even religion is decried," and that Robert M. La Follette was responsible for their having gone there, was the declaration of Representative J. H. Moore, guest at a dinner of the Market Street Merchants' association.

SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC HERALD

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The Builders' Column

By A. W. Mance

WHAT MEANS THIS UNREST?

Socialist sentiment is growing with leaps and bounds in all parts of the country.

Never in the past years was it so easy to get subscribers for Socialist papers as it is at the present time.

Men and women everywhere are beginning to dimly realize that the collective ownership and operation of the land and tools of production for use, instead of profit, is the only relief in sight from the oppression of trusts and the high cost of living.

Your neighbor is dimly beginning to see this. What he needs now is a good Socialist paper visiting him regularly, at least once a week.

You know the merits of the Social-Democratic Herald. You know its sterling worth as an agitator, educator and organizer.

It has become proverbial that where the Social-Democratic Herald goes in large numbers, Socialism and Socialist organizations grow.

The contents of the Herald gets into the grey matter of all who can be induced to read it.

All around you, whether you know it or not, there are men and women who need the Herald. It is your privilege and duty to urge them to become subscribers.

The price of the Herald in clubs of four, for \$1.25, is so cheap that it is within the reach of all.

Go after a club this week. If you haven't a club blank, just write the names on any piece of paper and send them along with \$1.25 and they will get the Herald each week for a year.

Don't fail to get on the list for a weekly bundle to sell and distribute. You can get a bundle of any size desired at the rate of half a cent a copy.

The seventh annual convention of the International Seamen's union, which closed its session in Seattle, Wash., Wednesday, was one of the most important yet held. Boston was selected for the 1914 convention. The convention decided to make a vigorous campaign for membership during the coming year in anticipation of a large increase in American shipping with the opening of the Panama canal.

Thomas Hansen, Chicago, general secretary and treasurer of the international union represented the Seamen at the convention. In the election of officers Andrew Furuseth, San Francisco, was re-elected president. The executive board was instructed to send M. Furuseth to the convention of the International Transport Workers' Federation in London.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS

Young Folks in Action

Contributions solicited. Write briefly.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST LEAGUES

MILWAUKEE.—In the Memorial Day field meet the party awarded prizes in the shape of handsome banners, suitable for carrying in future parades, beautifully lettered and made up in colors of the league winning each year. In each case the banners were prepared and put on exhibition, but with a space left for the words "first," "second," "third," or "fourth" to be put to after the event, according to the result. Permission was had from the park board, one of the commissioners being a party member, for the use of Washington park for the annual league luncheon and parade, while the athletic events were held in an adjoining concession park. . . . The Y. P. S. L. movement in Milwaukee has developed steadily and now the question of its exact relation to the party has to be considered for the advantage of both. The party wishes to see the work and keep in line with our aims and principles, and the leagues are anxious to bear a junior relation to the party, knowing that as the older Socialists retire younger shoulders will be needed to assume the responsibilities. A commission was appointed to work with the young people, but lacking authority under the party constitution the executive committee of the county central committee has been holding sessions with the commission and representatives of the several leagues, out of which will come a mutually acceptable plan for making the juniors a part of the party movement, without impairing the party line or lessening the activities of the leagues. . . . In days to come it is believed that the young Socialists will cut a big figure in the party propaganda work. The Milwaukee comrades will welcome additional light on the subject of the party and league relationship from the experience of other cities, and letters to these columns on the subject will be most welcome.

The following were the entries for the big field meet of Young People's Socialist leagues Friday, at White City ball park, Forty-second and Vilet streets:

100 yard dash for girls—East side, Miriam Gaylord, Ella Krause, and Ella Courter; West side, Elfreda Wolfjaeger, Genea Rickert, and Eleanor Hahn; North side, Kathryn Bauer, Margaret Gebbe, Alta Ueckel and Bella Wickmann; South side, Pauline Mankie, Margaret Fetzak, Martha Mankie and Clara Wacholz.

100 yard dash for boys—East side, William Jensen, Herbert Schroeder and Charles Wiemer; West side, Raymond Andre, Edward Berger, E. Scholter, Arthur Koenig and Waldo Maz; North side, Alvin Dethlaft, Otto Ueckel, Ed Reuter, Alfonsa Jantzen, Walter Perlich, Alfred Perlich, South side, Robert Lachmann, Harry Schwabke, George Leull, Arthur Schroeder and George Seaman.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS

Running broad jump—East side, Herbert Schroeder, Charles Wiemer, William Rickert; West side, Frank Busch, Raymond Andre, Arthur Koenig and Edward Scholter; North side, Alfonsa Jantzen, Alfred Perlich, Alfred Perlich, South side, Harry Schwabke, Gust Fetzak and Robert Elsenwag.

Baseball throwing contest for girls—East side, Miriam Gaylord; West side, Elfreda Wolfjaeger, Genea Rickert, and Eleanor Hahn; North side, Kathryn Bauer, Margaret Gebbe, Alta Ueckel and Bella Wickmann; South side, Pauline Mankie, Margaret Fetzak, Martha Mankie and Clara Wacholz.

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One-half mile relay race for boys—East side, William Jensen, Herbert Schroeder and Charles Wiemer; West side, Raymond Andre, Edward Berger, E. Scholter, Arthur Koenig and Waldo Maz; North side, Alvin Dethlaft, Otto Ueckel, Ed Reuter, Alfonsa Jantzen, Walter Perlich, Alfred Perlich, South side, Robert Lachmann, Harry Schwabke, George Leull, Arthur Schroeder and George Seaman.

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OUR YOUNG FOLKS

Every Week.

VOLUME 2 MILWAUKEE, JUNE 7, 1913 NUMBER 16

SENATOR DAGUE'S STORIES

ABOUT THE ENGLISH SPARROW

I have heard and read many interesting things about the sparrow, and will in this contribution repeat a few of them for the amusement of my boys and girls of Our Young Folks.

The first incident I will relate, is how an English sparrow caused the death of Sam Park, a sign painter in Detroit. Park was painting a sign three stories in the air and wasted to get to the roof for a brush. He climbed from the staging, on which he was working to the roof to another building, and from there started to cross to the higher roof by going hand over hand along a wire. He was about half way between the two buildings when a sparrow flew in his face.

The bird, apparently bewildered, sank its claws into Park's face in an attempt to poise a moment before resuming its flight. Park tried with one hand to brush the bird away and his other hand slipped. He fell to the ground, breaking his neck and dying immediately.

The next is how an English sparrow was the cause of three houses catching fire at Lawrenceburg, Ind., recently, and had not been for the prompt work of the neighbors and friends: I would have been destroyed. The sparrow was building a nest under the eaves of the home of Mrs. Mary Weber, and it picked up a long cotton string from a pile of rubbish that had just been burned. With the burning string in its beak, the sparrow flew to the roof of Mrs. Sophia Ganser's house, then to Otto McCright's house and then to the roof of Emanuel Wuest's home, where it dropped the burning string. A fire started in the shingles of each building. Each was extinguished by neighbors before much damage was done.

One day a well dressed young lady in Washington was standing on the street corner when a gust of wind blew a nice small plume from her hat. The plume, which was light green, landed in the gutter ten feet away.

Several men offered their services to recover the plume, when a sparrow, seeing the fluffy feathers, and realising its comfort if given safely to his nest, snatched it in his mouth and flew to the top of the Riggs Back building.

Mrs. H. L. Upton in one of the eastern states

tells a pretty story. She says: "One day while I was waiting at the station to take a train, I saw a sparrow busily engaged in selecting material for his nest from the road near by. After the sparrow had borne several pieces to his nest, he spied a very long straw, and tried to carry it by seizing it in the middle. The force of the wind against it was too great for him, so he took it by the end, and flew to the eaves of the platform. In endeavoring to weave the spill into his nest, he forced the half-built nest to the ground. Instantly, he came down, still holding the spig, to see what he had done. He did not stop to cry, to utter oaths, or even to scold on account of the mishap, but flew back, with his coveted possession, to tell his mate. Both returned, and set busily at work to rebuild the nest. Their manner was not one of anger, impatience, or discouragement; rather they renewed and redoubled their efforts by taking as much of the material as they could carry, at a time, in their little beaks. They were still working, industriously, when I left them."

One of the most curiously constructed bird's nests ever seen in Denver is on exhibition at the home of the Denver Dumb Friends' league, 1428 Court place. It was picked up by Dr. John M. Gower on the sidewalk in front of the court house, where the wind had evidently blown it.

The nest is a sparrow's, and, judging from its peculiar structure, the maker was preparing against the attack of his inherent enemy—man. It might be called a fortified nest. It is made of old sweepings, with hairpins and nails woven in at the sides. The points of the pins and the nails stick outward and remind one of rifles sticking through the portholes of a fortification.—R. A. Dague.

THE PARROT'S RETENTIVE MEMORY

I presume that many of our young folks have seen parrots that can talk a few words. Some can give utterance to many more words than others. Many people claim that parrots are the most intelligent birds. I do not know if that is true. There are instances which seem to prove that they have a very retentive memory. I will relate one instance which proves this. The story is told by Anna Stearns in Dumb Animals. She says:

(See Preceding Page)